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INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Soviet Warship in Riga Harbor

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SOURCE

On 7 December 1952, Soviet warship 7-14 was taking on coal at the
coal station on the north end of the export harbor in Riga. She
was a 2,000 to 3,000 ton ship, with one funnel, two masts and a straight
stem. She had a searchlight at her foremast and was carrying the Soviet
war ensign. Another vessel, marked T-038, and a third vessel with a
small name plate on her stern were also berthed at the coaling station.
The T-038 had one funnel, while the other vessel had two funnels. The
vessel with the name plate was an old German torpedo boat, which had
superstructures for torpedo mounts but no torpedo armament. The pier
and the coaling station were barred and closely guarded during the
coaling operation. Following the coaling operation, the warships put
out to sea again.

No Soviet warships were seen in the Duena muende harbor basin on 9 and
11 December 1952. Some PT-boats were hauled up on shore.

Comment: All former German torpedo boats delivered to the USSR
were oil-burners. As the reported vessels were taking on coal, the
vessel with the name plate at could not possibly have been a former
German torpedo boat.

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